

Remarks

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Claims 17, 20, 21 and 24 have been allowed. Claims 1-16, 18, 19, 22 and 23 have been rejected. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 14 has been amended above to correct a minor informality therein. Claims 1, 12, 16, 18 and 19 have been amended to recite language intended to resolve ambiguity alleged in the above-identified Office Action; however, the amendments clearly in no way narrow the scope of the claims.

Claims 1-16, 18, 19 and 22-23 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. In response to the remarks in the Office Action associated with this rejection, claim 1 has been amended in line 5 to recite "the wireless network". However, concerning the remarks in the last paragraph of page 2 and the first paragraph of page 3 of the Office Action, the Applicant requests clarification. More specifically, concerning the remarks in the last paragraph of page 2, claim 1 does not recite a "subscriber service". The Examiner is respectfully requested to provide clarification of the significance of "subscriber service" to claim 1.

Concerning the remarks in the first paragraph of page 3, the significance of the "service node" referred to is not understood. Claim 1 recites the step of transferring information between a subscriber and a wireless service. The agent that effects the transfer, whether it be a service node or some other agent, is not pertinent to any statutory requirement for the claims that the Applicant is aware of.

Remarks in the second paragraph of page 3 of the Office Action allege ambiguity in the language "address addressable by an alternative network" recited in the claims, and suggest two possible interpretations. Accordingly, the noted language has been amended to change "addressable" to "communicable with". The language as amended is believed to be more consistent with the second interpretation suggested in the Office Action than with the first interpretation; however, this interpretation is not the only possible interpretation, nor does the language exclude the first interpretation suggested in the Office Action. In disclosed illustrative embodiments, the alternative network in question is a packet network and the address is a packet network address.

In consideration of the above, and pending any forthcoming clarification, the Applicant submits that claims 1-16, 18, 19 and 22-23 are fully compliant with § 112, and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under § 112.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art in view of Hartmaier (US 6,034,753). To establish a prima facie case of obviousness under § 103, all claim limitations of a claimed invention must be taught or suggested by the prior art. See MPEP, § 2143.03 and *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). In view of the foregoing authority, the Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference fails to support the asserted rejection for at least the reason that it does not teach or suggest determining, at a service node, an address communicable with by an alternative network and associated with a wireless service, as required by claim 1.

In Hartmaier, the TIP address is not associated with a service, but only identifies a mobile unit (see col. 4, lines 60-61). By contrast, according to the present invention as claimed, an address communicable with by an alternate network is associated with a particular service that a service node can provide a mobile station. For example, as discussed in the present specification at page 7, lines 10-12, a given IP address may be associated with a voice mail service, and a service node such as a mobile switching center may process voice mail in the form of packet data received at the IP address and send the voice mail information to a subscriber. Other types of services may be associated with different IP addresses (see, e.g., the present specification at page 8, lines 13-16). Hartmaier does not suggest determining an address associated with a service. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 103(a) is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing discussion, the Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in all aspects in allowable condition, and earnestly solicits favorable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4323 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 related to this communication to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION OF AMENDMENTS MARKED UP TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A method of transferring information between a subscriber and a wireless service, comprising the steps of:
receiving a registration request for the subscriber at a service node;
determining, at the service node, an address [addressable] communicable with by an alternative network and associated with [a] the wireless service; and
transferring information between the subscriber and the wireless service using the determined address.

12. (Twice amended) A method of using an alternative network to provide wireless services comprising:
determining a list of wireless services to be offered to a subscriber;
identifying a corresponding list of addresses [addressable] communicable with by an alternative network for each service;
communicating the wireless services list and the corresponding addresses list between a service node and a Serving Control Point (SCP).

14. (Twice amended) The method of claim [15] 12, wherein the step of communicating comprises:
sending the wireless services list and addresses list from the SCP to the service node.

16. (Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of forwarding a single wireless service and an address [addressable] communicable with by the alternative network from the SCP to a node associated with the wireless service.

18. (Twice amended) The method of claim 17 wherein said step of exchanging second information comprises the sub-step of receiving an address [addressable] communicable with by an alternative network address from the identified service node related to a wireless service.

19. (Twice amended) The method of claim 17 wherein said step of exchanging second information comprises the sub-step of transmitting an address [addressable] communicable with by an alternative network address to the identified service node related to a wireless service.